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B104 (FORM 104) (08/07) EDVA

ADVERSARY PROCEEDING COVER SHEET (Instructions on Reverse)		ADVERSARY PROCEEDING NUMBER (Court Use Only)		
PLAINTIFFS	DEFEND	ANTS		
ATTORNEYS (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone No.)	ATTORNEYS (If Known)			
PARTY (Check One Box Only) □ Debtor □ U.S. Trustee/Bankruptcy Admin □ Creditor □ Other □ Trustee	PARTY (☐ Debtor ☐ Creditor ☐ Trustee	Check One Box Only) □ U.S. Trustee/Bankruptcy Admin □ Other		
CAUSE OF ACTION (WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE OF ACTION, INCLUDING ALL U.S. STATUTES INVOLVED)				
NATURE OF SUIT (Number up to five (5) boxes starting with lead cause of action as 1, first alternative cause as 2, second alternative cause as 3, etc.)				
FRBP 7001(1) – Recovery of Money/Property 11-Recovery of money/property - §542 turnover of property 12-Recovery of money/property - §547 preference 13-Recovery of money/property - §548 fraudulent transfer 14-Recovery of money/property - other	FRBP 7001(6) – Dischargeability (continued) 61-Dischargeability - §523(a)(5), domestic support 68-Dischargeability - §523(a)(6), willful and malicious injury 63-Dischargeability - §523(a)(8), student loan 64-Dischargeability - §523(a)(15), divorce or separation obligation (other than domestic support)			
FRBP 7001(2) – Validity, Priority or Extent of Lien 21-Validity, priority or extent of lien or other interest in property FRBP 7001(3) – Approval of Sale of Property 31-Approval of sale of property of estate and of a co-owner - §363(h)	☐ 65-Dischargeability - other FRBP 7001(7) – Injunctive Relief ☐ 71-Injunctive relief – imposition of stay			
FRBP 7001(4) – Objection/Revocation of Discharge 41-Objection / revocation of discharge - §727(c),(d),(e) FRBP 7001(5) – Revocation of Confirmation	72-Injunctive relief – other FRBP 7001(8) Subordination of Claim or Interest 81-Subordination of claim or interest FRBP 7001(9) Declaratory Judgment			
☐ 51-Revocation of confirmation FRBP 7001(6) – Dischargeability ☐ 66-Dischargeability - §523(a)(1),(14),(14A) priority tax claims	91-Declaratory judgment FRBP 7001(10) Determination of Removed Action 01-Determination of removed claim or cause			
☐ 62-Dischargeability - §523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation, actual fraud ☐ 67-Dischargeability - §523(a)(4), fraud as fiduciary, embezzlement, larceny (continued next column)	Other SS-SIPA 02-Other if uni	Case – 15 U.S.C. §§78aaa <i>et.seq</i> . (e.g. other actions that would have been brought in state court related to bankruptcy case)		
☐ Check if this case involves a substantive issue of state law ☐ Check if a jury trial is demanded in complaint	☐ Check if Demand \$	this is asserted to be a class action under FRCP 23		
Other Relief Sought				

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B104 (FORM 104) (08/07), Page 2

BANKRUPTCY CASE IN WHICH THIS ADVERSARY PROCEEDING ARISES				
NAME OF DEBTOR		BANKRUPTCY CASE NO.		
DISTRICT IN WHICH CASE IS PENDING		DIVISION OFFICE	NAME OF JUDGE	
RELATED ADVERSARY PROCEEDING (IF ANY)				
PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT	Γ	ADVERSARY PROCEEDING NO.	
DISTRICT IN WHICH ADVERSARY IS PENDIN	IG	DIVISION OFFICE	NAME OF JUDGE	
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PLAINTIFF)				
DATE		PRINT NAME OF ATTORNEY (OR PLAINTIFF)		

INSTRUCTIONS

The filing of a bankruptcy case creates an "estate" under the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court which consists of all of the property of the debtor, wherever that property is located. Because the bankruptcy estate is so extensive and the jurisdiction of the court so broad, there may be lawsuits over the property or property rights of the estate. There also may be lawsuits concerning the debtor's discharge. If such a lawsuit is filed in a bankruptcy court, it is called an adversary proceeding.

A party filing an adversary proceeding must also complete and file Form 104, the Adversary Proceeding Cover Sheet, *unless the party files the adversary proceeding electronically through the court's Case Management/Electronic Case Filing system (CM/ECF). (CM/ECF captures the information on Form 104 as part of the filing process.) When completed, the cover sheet summarizes basic information on the adversary proceeding. The clerk of court needs the information to process the adversary proceeding and prepare required statistical reports on court activity.

The cover sheet and the information contained on it do not replace or supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, the Bankruptcy Rules, or the local rules of court. The cover sheet, which is largely self-explanatory, must be completed by the plaintiff's attorney (or by the plaintiff if the plaintiff is not represented by an attorney). A separate cover sheet must be submitted to the clerk for each complaint filed.

Plaintiffs and **Defendants.** Give the names of the plaintiffs and defendants exactly as they appear on the complaint.

Attorneys. Give the names and addresses of the attorneys, if known.

Party. Check the most appropriate box in the first column for the plaintiffs and the second column for the defendants.

Demand. Enter the dollar amount being demanded in the complaint.

Signature. This cover sheet must be signed by the attorney of record in the box on the second page of the form. If the plaintiff is represented by a law firm, a member of the firm must sign. If the plaintiff is pro se, that is, not represented by an attorney, the plaintiff must sign.

*Per LBR 7003-1, in the EDVA, a properly completed Adversary Proceeding Cover Sheet is required.

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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA RICHMOND DIVISION

In re:) Case No. 08-35653 (KRH)
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC., et al.,) Chapter 11
Debtors.)) (Jointly Administered)
ALFRED H. SIEGEL, AS TRUSTEE OF THE CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC. LIQUIDATING TRUST,))) Adv. Pro. No. 10
Plaintiff,))
v.))
RANDOM HOUSE PUBLISHING INC.,))
Defendant.))

THE LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE'S COMPLAINT TO RECOVER AMOUNTS OWING TO THE ESTATE AND OBJECTION TO CLAIM NOS. 1394 AND 8157

Alfred H. Siegel, the duly appointed trustee of the Circuit City Stores, Inc. Liquidating Trust (the "Trustee"), pursuant to the Second Amended Joint Plan of Liquidation of Circuit City Stores, Inc. and its Affiliated Debtors and Debtors in Possession and its Official Committee of Creditors Holding General Unsecured Claims (the "Plan"), for his complaint and for his objection to Proof of Claim Nos. 1394 and 8157 (the "Complaint") against Random House Publishing Inc. ("Defendant"), alleges as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. The Trustee brings this action against Defendant to recover amounts due and owing from Defendant to Circuit City arising from the relationship between the parties. In addition to contractual claims, the Trustee seeks recovery for unjust enrichment as well as turnover of property of the bankruptcy estates. Finally, the Trustee objects to Defendant's proof of claim filed against the Debtors' estates.

THE PARTIES

2. The Trustee ("Trustee" or "Plaintiff") is the duly appointed trustee of the Circuit City Stores, Inc. Liquidating Trust (the "Trust"). Pursuant to Articles II and III of the Trust, the Trustee has the sole authority to pursue claims transferred to the Trust by the Debtors through the Plan, and to litigate objections to claims asserted against the Debtors' estates.

- 3. Prior to the Effective Date of the Plan, Circuit City Stores, Inc. and its affiliated debtors in possession (collectively "Circuit City" or the "Debtors")¹ were corporations that maintained their respective principal places of business in the locations set forth below, and were the debtors in the above-captioned chapter 11 bankruptcy cases.
- 4. Upon information and belief, Defendant is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York with its principal place of business in New York, New York.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- This Court has jurisdiction to consider this matter under 28
 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334.
 - 6. This is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b).
- 7. Venue of these chapter 11 cases and this adversary proceeding in this district and before this Court is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 8. The statutory and legal predicates for the relief requested by the Complaint are sections 105, 502, 503, 541, 542, 547, 550, and 558 of title 11,

¹ The Debtors and the last four digits of their respective taxpayer identification numbers are as follows: Circuit City Stores, Inc. (3875), Circuit City Stores West Coast, Inc. (0785), InterTAN, Inc. (0875), Ventoux International, Inc. (1838), Circuit City Purchasing Company, LLC (5170), CC Aviation, LLC (0841), CC Distribution Company of Virginia, Inc. (2821), Circuit City Properties, LLC (3353), Kinzer Technology, LLC (2157), Abbott Advertising Agency, Inc. (4659), Patapsco Designs, Inc.(6796), Sky Venture Corp. (0311), PRAHS, Inc.(n/a), XSStuff, LLC (9263), Mayland MN, LLC (6116), Courchevel, LLC (n/a), Orbyx Electronics, LLC (3360), and Circuit City Stores PR, LLC (5512). The address for Circuit City Stores West Coast, Inc. is 9250 Sheridan Boulevard, Westminster, Colorado 80031. For all other Debtors, the address was 9950 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23233 and currently is 4951 Lake Brook Drive, Glen Allen, VA 23060.

United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Bankruptcy Rules 3007 and 7001, and Local Bankruptcy Rule 3007-1.

PERTINENT FACTS

A. General Case Background

- 9. On November 10, 2008 (the "Petition Date"), the Debtors filed voluntary petitions in this Court for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, and until the effective date of the Plan, continued to operate as debtors in possession pursuant to Bankruptcy Code sections 1107 and 1108.
- 10. On November 12, 2008, the Office of the United States

 Trustee for the Eastern District of Virginia appointed a statutory committee of
 unsecured creditors (the "Creditors' Committee").
- 11. On January 16, 2009, the Court authorized the Debtors to, among other things, conduct going out of business sales at all of the Debtors' retail locations (the "Stores") pursuant to an agency agreement (the "Agency Agreement") between the Debtors and a joint venture, as agent (the "Agent"). On January 17, 2009, the Agent commenced going out of business sales at the Stores pursuant to the Agency Agreement. As of March 8, 2009, the going-out-of-business sales at the Debtors' stores were completed.
- 12. On August 9, 2010, the Debtors and the Creditors' Committee filed the Plan, which provides for the liquidation of the Debtors' assets and distribution of the proceeds thereof under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

- 13. On September 10, 2010, the United States Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Virginia, signed an Order confirming the Plan.
- 14. The Plan became effective on November 1, 2010 (the "Effective Date").

B. The Business Relationship Between Circuit City and Defendant

- Debtors were a leading specialty retailer of consumer electronics and operated large nationwide electronics stores that sold, among other things, televisions, home theatre systems, computers, camcorders, furniture, software, imaging and telecommunications products, and other audio and video electronics.
- 16. On or about September 20, 2006, Circuit City and Defendant entered into an agreement pursuant to which Defendant sold goods to Circuit City (the "Agreement").
- 17. During the course of the parties' relationship, the parties engaged in numerous transactions pursuant to the Agreement, that are reflected in invoices, communications and other documents (collectively, the "Defendant's Agreements").
- 18. Circuit City and Defendant conducted business with one another up to and through the Petition Date under the Defendant's Agreements.

19. During the ordinary course of the Debtors' business, the Debtors maintained books and records of their transactions with Defendant (the "Books and Records").

C. Amounts Allegedly Owed to Defendant and Defendant's Proof of Claim

(1) Claim No. 1394

- 20. On or about December 17, 2008, Defendant filed a claim in the amount \$23,998.00 as a claim allegedly entitled to priority status under Bankruptcy Code section 503(b)(9). The Claims Agent appointed by the Court designated this claim as Claim No. 1394.
- 21. In claim no. 1394, Defendant alleges that the claim was based on the sales of certain goods by Defendant to Circuit City during the twenty-day period prior to the Petition Date.

(2) <u>Claim No. 8157</u>

- On or about January 29, 2009, Defendant filed Claim No.
- 23. Claim No. 8157 was filed (i) in the amount of \$231,541.88 as a general unsecured, non-priority claim (the "General Unsecured Claim"), and (ii) in the amount of \$23,988.00 as an administrative claim pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 503(b)(9) (the "Administrative Claim Portion of Claim No. 8157").
- 24. The General Unsecured Claim was filed on account of goods and services allegedly provided to Circuit City prior to the Petition Date.

- 25. The Administrative Claim Portion of Claim No. 8157 was filed on account of goods allegedly sold by Defendant to Circuit City during the twenty-day period prior to the Petition Date.
- 26. Pursuant to the Court's *Order on Debtors' Twenty-Third*Omnibus Objection to Claims (Modification of Certain Duplicative 503(b)(9)

 Claims) [Docket No. 4465], the amount of the Administrative Claim Portion of Claim No. 8157 was reduced to zero because it is duplicative of claim no. 1394.

D. Amounts Owed to Circuit City by Defendant

27. As of the date hereof, on account of the prepetition business conducted between Defendant and Circuit City pursuant to the Defendant's Agreements or otherwise, Defendant is indebted to Circuit City on account of the following unpaid obligations (the "Unpaid Obligations") in at least the following amounts:

TOTAL	\$206,100.10		
Billbacks	(\$96,093.40)		
Chargebacks	\$302,193.50		

28. The Unpaid Obligations are due, owing, and payable by Defendant to Circuit City.

COUNT I

BREACH OF CONTRACT

29. The Trustee repeats and realleges each of the allegations set forth above as if fully set forth herein.

- 30. Pursuant to the Defendant's Agreements, Defendant is obligated to pay to the Debtors the Unpaid Obligations as and for chargebacks and billbacks in connection with goods previously delivered by Defendants to Debtors under the Defendant's Agreements, as set forth in Paragraph 27, supra.
- 31. The Defendant's Agreements are valid and enforceable agreements against Defendant.
- 32. The Debtors performed their obligations under the Defendant's Agreements with respect to the Unpaid Obligations.
- 33. Defendant's failure to compensate the Debtors for the Unpaid Obligations constitutes a material breach of Defendant's obligations under the Defendant's Agreements.
- 34. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breaches, the Debtors incurred damages in an amount not less than \$206,100.10.
- 35. Accordingly, the Trustee is entitled to a judgment against Defendant in an amount not less than \$206,100.10.

COUNT II

UNJUST ENRICHMENT/QUASI CONTRACT

36. The Trustee repeats and realleges each of the allegations set forth above as if fully set forth herein.

- 37. In the alternative to Count III, but without waiving any allegation with respect thereto, the Trustee makes the following additional allegations in support of Count II.
- 38. The Debtors conferred a benefit upon Defendant pursuant to the Defendant's Agreements, by agreeing to purchase various goods from Defendant pursuant thereto.
- 39. Defendant knowingly accepted the benefit conferred by the Debtors.
- 40. The Debtors reasonably expected to be compensated by Defendant in an amount not less than \$206,100.10 on account of the benefit conferred upon Defendant.
- 41. Defendant's receipt of benefit without just compensation to the Debtors has unjustly enriched Defendant in an amount not less than \$206,100.10.
- 42. The Trustee has no adequate remedy at law to recover the Unpaid Obligations.
- 43. Accordingly, as a result of Defendant's unjust enrichment at the Debtors' expense, the Trustee is entitled to restitution from the Defendant in an amount not less than \$206,100.10.

COUNT III

TURNOVER OF PROPERTY PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. § 542

- 44. The Trustee repeats and realleges each of the allegations set forth above as if fully set forth herein.
- 45. 40. In the alternative to Counts I and II, but without waiving any allegation with respect thereto, the Trustee makes the following additional allegations in support of Count III.
- 46. Defendant is in possession, custody, and control of the Unpaid Obligations in an amount not less than \$206,100.10.
 - 47. Defendant is not a custodian for the Unpaid Obligations.
- 48. The Unpaid Obligations constitute valid and existing debts, due and owing by Defendant to the Debtors.
- 49. The Unpaid Obligations are property of the Debtors' estates under section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code and constitute debts that are matured, payable on demand, or payable on order.
- 50. Despite being requested to do so, Defendant has not turned over or paid to Circuit City the Unpaid Obligations.
- 51. Accordingly, pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 542,

 Defendant should be compelled to immediately turn over and deliver to the Trustee
 the Unpaid Obligations in an amount not less than \$206,100.10.

COUNT IV

OBJECTION TO CLAIM NOS. 1394 and 8157– DISALLOWANCE UNDER SECTION 502(d)

- 52. The Trustee repeats and realleges each of the allegations set forth above as if fully set forth herein.
- 53. Claim Nos. 1394 and 8157 assert a right to payment allegedly owed by one or more of the Debtors.
- 54. As alleged above, each Preferential Transfer constitutes an avoidable preference pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 547(b), which is recoverable pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 550.
- 55. Accordingly, pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 502(d), Claim Nos. 1394 and 8157 must be disallowed unless and until Defendant pays to the Trustee an amount equal to each Preferential Transfer that is avoided.

COUNT V

OBJECTION TO THE GENERAL UNSECURED CLAIM AS OVERSTATED

- 56. The Trustee repeats and realleges each of the allegations set forth above as if fully set forth herein.
- 57. After a thorough review of the Debtors' Books and Records, the Trustee has determined that the General Unsecured Claim is overstated by at least \$26,984.24. In particular, the Trustee has determined that the General Unsecured Claim fails to account for price and quantity discrepancies and other reconciling adjustments.

58. As a result, the General Unsecured Claim should be reduced by an amount of at least \$26,984.24 to an amount of no more than \$204,557.64 (\$231,541.88 minus \$26,984.24) (the "Modified General Unsecured Claim").

COUNT VI

OBJECTION TO CLAIM NO. 1394 – SETOFF OF THE UNPAID OBLIGATIONS

- 59. The Trustee repeats and realleges each of the allegations set forth above as if fully set forth herein.
- 60. In the alternative to Counts I, II and III, but without waiving any allegation with respect thereto, the Trustee makes the following additional allegations in support of Count VI.
- 61. The Unpaid Obligations arose from business transactions between the Debtors and Defendant.
- 62. The Unpaid Obligations are debts owed by Defendant to the Debtors.
- 63. Claim no. 1394 also arose from business transactions between Defendant and the Debtors, and is a debt allegedly owed by the Debtors to Defendant.
- 64. Consequently, under applicable law, the Debtors have established valid setoff rights.
- 65. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 558, the Debtors' defenses, including setoff, are preserved.

- 66. Under applicable law, the Unpaid Obligations should be setoff first against claim no. 1394.
- 67. After setoff, claim no. 1394 should be reduced to \$0, and the Unpaid Obligations should be reduced to \$182,112.10 (\$206,100.10 minus \$23,988.00) (the "Remaining Unpaid Obligations").

COUNT VII

OBJECTION TO THE MODIFIED GENERAL UNSECURED CLAIM – SETOFF OF THE UNPAID OBLIGATIONS

- 68. The Trustee repeats and realleges each of the allegations set forth above as if fully set forth herein.
- 69. In the alternative to Counts I, II and III, but without waiving any allegation with respect thereto, the Trustee makes the following additional allegations in support of Count VII.
- 70. The General Unsecured Claim arose from business transactions between defendant and the Debtors, and asserts a debt allegedly owed by the Debtors to Defendant.
- 71. Consequently, under applicable law, the Debtors have established valid setoff rights.
- 72. The Remaining Unpaid Obligations should be setoff against the Modified General Unsecured Claim.
- 73. After setoff, the Modified General Unsecured Claim should be reduced to \$22,445.54 (\$204,557.64 minus \$182,112.10).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Trustee respectfully requests and prays that the Court:

- i. Pursuant to Count I, enter judgment against Defendant for breach of contract and award the Trustee damages in an amount not less than \$206,100.10; and
- ii. In the alternative to Count I, pursuant to Count II, enter judgment against Defendant for unjust enrichment and award Circuit City restitution damages on account of Defendant's unjust enrichment in an amount not less than \$206,100.10; and
- iii. In the alternative to Counts I and II, pursuant to Count III, order Defendant to immediately turn over and deliver to the Trustee the Unpaid Obligations in an amount not less than \$206,100.10; and
- iv. Pursuant to Count IV, disallow Claim Nos. 1394 and 8157 in accordance with Bankruptcy Code section 502(d) pending payment by Defendant to the Trustee of any avoidable and recoverable transfers; and
- v. Pursuant to Count V, reduce the General Unsecured Claim from the overstated amount of \$231,541.88 to \$204,557.64; and
- vi. In the alternative to Counts I, II, and III, pursuant to Count VI, authorize the Trustee to effect a setoff against claim no. 1394, reducing claim no. 1394 by \$23,988.00 to \$0; and
- vii. In the alternative to Counts I, II, and III, pursuant to Count VII, authorize Circuit City to effect a setoff against the Modified General Unsecured Claim, reducing the Modified General Unsecured Claim to \$22,445.54; and
- viii. Award the Trustee prejudgment interest at the legally allowed applicable rate;
 - ix. Award the Trustee costs, and expenses of suit herein; and
- x. Grant the Trustee such other and further relief the Court deems just and appropriate.

Dated: Richmond, Virginia November 10, 2010 TAVENNER & BERAN, PLC

/s/ Lynn L. Tavenner

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